

## **FOREWORD**

“Cancer in the District of Columbia - 1998” is a combined cancer incidence and cancer mortality publication of the Department of Health, Preventive Health Services Administration, Division of Cancer Control, Cancer Registry (DCCR). It contains data on cancer cases diagnosed in 1998 by site as well as information collected on mortality data supplied by the DC Center for Health Statistics. The data presented can be used by public and private health officials, hospital administrators, managed care organizations, physicians, concerned citizens, and other not for profit organizations to assess and monitor trends related to specific cancers, plan prevention and intervention efforts, target high risk populations for increased screening and treatment services, and prioritize health funding. As the 1993-1997 Surveillance and Epidemiology End Results (SEER) report data demonstrated that the District of Columbia has the highest cancer mortality rate in the nation, it is incumbent on all sectors of our community to work together to reduce the cancer burden on all of our citizens.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The data as presented are a compilation of case and mortality reports completed by hospital tumor registrars and case abstractors, physicians, and reports forwarded on District residents from other collaborating state cancer registries. Their ongoing efforts and assistance in providing case data that are timely, complete, and of high quality are acknowledged with our thanks. The DCCR recognizes that their support in producing future reports necessary to meaningfully assess and interpret cancer trends in the District of Columbia is vital.

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